

URBAN DISTRICT OF CHARLTON KINGS

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1969

Medical Officer of Health

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Council Offices

Copt Elm Road,
Charlton Kings,
Cheltenham,
Glos:

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1969

(As from June 1969)

Councillor: Mrs. E.L.F. Allpress (Chairman)

Councillors: A.J. Bower, G.W. Enoch, C.H. Gardner,
G.H. Hollas, H.O.C. Millward, G.W. Mitchell,
Mrs. M. Phillips, S.D. Rogers, Mrs. I. Stainton,
V.G. Stanton, B.J. Ward.

STAFF

W. Court - Assistant Surveyor

H. Taylor - Pests Officer (Part Time)

URBAN DISTRICT OF CHARLTON KINGS
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1969

To The Chairman and Members of the
Charlton Kings Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for 1969 on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District. The report is prepared as required by Circular 1/70 of the Department of Health & Social Security.

I am indebted again to Mr. D.G.Masling, the Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, for the section of the report contributed by him.

The registrar-General's estimate of the population 10,260 shows an annual increase of 270 persons, much the same as that in the previous year.

The number of births fell from 135 in 1968 to 114 in the year under review and in consequence the Birth Rate from 13.5 to 11.1 per 1,000 of the population. The decline in the Birth Rate from a peak in 1965 has occurred not only in the Urban District, where it is more marked, but also in the County and for the country as a whole.

One hundred and twenty-two people died during the year; the Death Rate being 11.9 per 1,000 population which is much the same as the national average.

Five infants died under one year of age. Infantile mortality, averaging 44 deaths per 1,000 live births, is very high but as the numbers involved are so small exaggerated variations occur.

The incidence of notifiable disease continues to be extremely light but the high level of immunisation and vaccination needs to be maintained and this is especially so in respect of the recently introduced vaccination against measles.

I wish to thank most sincerely members of the Council for their support and encouragement, and the staff for their co-operation and loyalty throughout the period during which I have held office.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

STEPHEN KNIGHT

Medical Officer of Health

CHARLTON KINGS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	3.399
Registrar-General's estimate of mid year population (including members of the Armed Forces)	10,260
Number of Inhabited Houses (end 1969)	3,388
Rateable Value (at 31.12.69)	£373,903
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,426

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VITAL STATISTICS

These statistics give particulars of the births and deaths in the Urban District.

MOTHERS & INFANTS

<u>1. LIVE BIRTHS</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number:	Legitimate.....	109	50	59
	Illegitimate.....	5	-	5
	Total	114	50	64
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population		11.1		
Area Comparability Factor (Births)		1.03		
Local adjusted rate		11.4		
<u>2. ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS</u> (per cent of total Live Births) 5%				
<u>3. STILL BIRTHS</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number:	Legitimate.....	Nil	-	-
	Illegitimate.....	Nil	-	-
	Total	Nil	-	-
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births		Nil		
<u>4. TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS</u>		114	50	64
<u>5. INFANT DEATHS</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
(i)	Deaths of infants under 1 year			
	Number: Legitimate.....	5	3	2
	Illegitimate.....	-	-	-
	Total	5	3	2
(ii)	Neo-natal Deaths under 4 weeks			
	Number: Legitimate.....	5	3	2
	Illegitimate.....	-	-	-
	Total	5	3	2
(iii)	Early Neo-natal Deaths of infants under 1 week			
	Number: Legitimate.....	4	2	2
	Illegitimate.....	-	-	-
	Total	4	2	2

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA Cont'd

6. INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	44
Legitimate " " " " Legitimate live births	46
Illegitimate " " " " Illegitimate live births	Nil

7. NEO-NATAL MORTALITY (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000
RATE total live births) 44

8. EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week
per 1,000 total live births) 35

9. PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (Stillbirths and deaths under
1 week combined per 1,000
total live and still births) 35

10. MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)

Number of Deaths	None
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil

11. <u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number	122	51	71

Death Rate per 1,000 of the population	11.9
Area Comparability Factors (Deaths)	.95
Local adjusted rate	11.3

CAUSES OF DEATH

The causes of death in the following table are classified under the Abbreviated List (B List) of International Statistical Classifications:

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
B5	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	-	1
B19 (3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	-
B19 (4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	1	4
B19 (6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	3	-
B19 (7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2
B19 (8)	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	2
B19 (9)	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	3	-
B19 (11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	3	5
B46 (3)	Mental Disorders	-	1
B24	Meningitis	-	1
B46 (4)	Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.,	1	1
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1
B27	Hypertensive Disease	1	-
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	19	19
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	1	9
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	4	4
B46 (5)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	6
B32	Pneumonia	2	4
B33 (1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	1	2
B46 (6)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	1
B34	Peptic Ulcer	1	1
B36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	-
B37	Cirrhosis of Liver	1	1
B46 (7)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	1
B38	Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1
B42	Congenital Anomalies	1	-
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.,	-	2
B44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	2	-
BE48	All other Accidents	-	1
BE49	Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	1	1
	TOTAL	51	71

CANCER

Death Rates from Cancer per 1,000 population:-

	<u>England & Wales</u>		<u>Charlton Kings U.D.C.</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Cancer of the Lung	1.039	0.202	0.6	Nil
Other Cancer	1.570	1.901	2.0	2.7

Three men died of Cancer of the Lung; having regard to the small numbers involved which give rise to fluctuations in the averages there is no undue mortality from Cancer in any form.

BIRTH, DEATH & INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES IN THE DISTRICT FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>
<u>Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)</u>	17.9	16.9	14.4	13.5	11.1
<u>Death Rate (per 1,000 population)</u>	12.3	10.9	10.9	11.9	11.9
<u>Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births - deaths of infants under 1 year)</u>	37.7	12.6	36	30	44
<u>Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) (Deaths of infants under 1 month)</u>	31.4	6.3	21	22	44

COMPARISON WITH THE BIRTH, DEATH & INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES ETC., FOR 1969

	<u>England & Wales</u>	<u>County of Glos.</u>	<u>Charlton Kings U.D.C.</u>
<u>Live Birth Rate</u>	16.3	16.8	11.1
<u>Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total live & still births)</u>	13	11.1	Nil
<u>Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births - deaths of Infants under 1 year)</u>	18	15.9	44
<u>Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births - deaths of Infants under 1 month)</u>	12	11.0	44
<u>Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total live births) (deaths under 1 week of age)</u>	10	9.0	35
<u>Perinatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live & still births - Still births & Infants deaths under one week)</u>	23	20	35
<u>Death Rate (per 1,000 population)</u>	11.9	10.4	11.9

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTION AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1969
(excluding Tuberculosis)

	Under <u>1 year</u>	<u>1 - 4</u>	<u>5 - 14</u>	<u>15 - 24</u>	25 and <u>over</u>	Age <u>unknown</u>	<u>Total</u>
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
Scarlet Fever	- -	1 -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	2 -
Whooping Cough	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Poliomyelitis, paralytic, non-paralytic	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Measles	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	1 -
Diphtheria	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Dysentery	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1
Meningococcal infection	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
	Under <u>5 years</u>	<u>5 - 14</u>	<u>15 - 44</u>	<u>45 - 64</u>	65 and <u>over</u>		<u>Total</u>
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.		M. F.
Pneumonia	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		- -
Encephalitis, infectious	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		- -
Erysipelas	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		- -
Puerperal Pyrexia	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		- -

Scarlet Fever

Only two cases of Scarlet Fever occurred, in recent years the disease has been mild in character and light in incidence.

Diphtheria

The Urban District has been free from Diphtheria since 1944.

Whooping Cough

No cases were notified, vaccination against Whooping Cough has proved most successful.

Measles

Only one case was notified. Vaccination against Measles has been recently introduced.

Poliomyelitis

No case was notified, again the response to vaccination is excellent.

Food Poisoning

No case was notified.

(a)	<u>Food Poisoning Notifications (Corrected) as Returned to Registrar General</u>				
	<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	-	-	-	-	NIL
(b)	CASES OTHERWISE ASCERTAINED				NIL
(c)	SYMPTOMLESS EXCRETORS				NIL
(d)	FATAL CASES				NIL

AGENT	No. of outbreaks		No. of Cases		Total No. of Cases
	Family Outbreaks	Other Outbreaks	Notified	Otherwise Ascertained	
Agent not identified	-	-	-	-	NIL

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

State of protection of children against Diphtheria born in year	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>
	10 (8%)	111 (87%)	139 (93%)

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

State of protection of children against Smallpox born in year	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>
	1 (1%)	37 (29%)	80 (54%)

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES

Children

	<u>0 - 4 yrs.</u>	<u>5 - 14 yrs.</u>	<u>All persons</u>
Respiratory	-	-	2
Meninges and C.N.S.	-	-	-
Other forms	-	-	-
	TOTAL:		2

Deaths

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Respiratory	-	1
Meninges and C.N.S.	-	-
Other forms	-	-

Tuberculosis Register

The number of cases on the register at 31st December, 1969 was as follows:-

<u>Pulmonary</u>			<u>Non-pulmonary</u>			<u>All forms</u>
<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
8	6	14	-	-	-	14

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Clean Food and Food Hygiene

Regulations are in force for securing hygienic methods in the handling, wrapping and delivery of food for sale. The Regulations require that clean food should be dealt with only by clean persons in clean premises, using clean equipment.

Food shops and similar establishments (including vehicles) are inspected regularly to ensure that food is wholesome and that the premises and vehicles comply with requirements.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47 - Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of care and attention

National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951-Section 1.

These Acts give local authorities power to apply to the Courts for the compulsory removal of aged or sick persons who are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people, proper care and attention. It was not necessary to make any application to the Court during the year.

The Home Help Service and Old People's Welfare Committee are of great assistance to many elderly people, enabling them to carry on in their own homes even though they have been left on their own.

Old People's Welfare Committee

An Old People's Welfare Committee operates in the District. The Committee helps to co-ordinate local services both voluntary and statutory for the elderly and members act as visitors in their area. Mrs M.Garside is the Hon. Secretary of Charlton Kings Urban District Council Old People's Welfare Committee.

The Old People's Clubs are most useful, they look after their members and report instances in which help is required.

Meals on Wheels

An extension of the Cheltenham Borough scheme operates in the District.

GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Facilities

Samples taken under the Public Health Acts are sent for bacteriological analysis to the Public Health Laboratory at Gloucester Royal Infirmary. The laboratory is part of the Public Health Laboratory Service of the Department of Health and Social Security and no charge is made for making use of its service.

Chemical examination of specimens is undertaken by the City Analyst, Worcester.

Home Help Service

This Service is organised by the County Council and the charge for the services of a Home Help is 6/6d per hour. The charge may, however, be reduced in accordance with the Council's scale of assessment for contribution to the cost of the service. The actual amount of the cost to be refunded by each householder will be assessed by the Organiser on receipt of the appropriate form giving details of income and expense.

An extensive service of domestic help is available. It may be given where such help is essential due to old age or infirmity, tuberculosis, convalescence, home confinements and for families where young children are temporarily deprived of their parents.

Appeals for assistance from the Home Help Service should be made to:- Mrs J. Williams, Area Home Help Organiser, Divisional Health Office, Council Offices, Copt Elm Road, Charlton Kings. Telephone No:- Cheltenham 25746 and 25747.

Nursing in the Home

The area is covered by the District Nursing Association under the control of the Health Committee of the County Council.

Nurse Williamson (District Nurse) has now left and her successor is:-

Mrs P. Rigby
2, Langton Grove Road
Charlton Kings

Telephone:- Cheltenham 20332

Child Health Clinic

Meetings of the Charlton Kings Child Health Clinic are held in the School Road Youth Hall every Tuesday at 2.30 p.m.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

To: The Chairman and
Members of the Charlton Kings
Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am again grateful for the opportunity of being able to contribute to this Annual Report in giving details and commenting upon the Public Health aspects of the work of my Department during 1969.

The year under review cannot be regarded as a significant one as far as housing is concerned. Private development continued at a very much reduced level compared with previous years and a "nil return" is again unfortunately recorded against houses built by the Council. Furthermore, there is little satisfaction to be gained from the numbers of older houses improved by way of grants - this in a year when the Housing Act 1969 increasing and widening the scope of grants came on to the statute book.

In all then, a year of little housing progress, brightened only by the commencement on the Croft Road site of the Council's scheme for twentyfour flats for the elderly with Warden's accommodation.

This is the first time that the Council have embarked on a scheme for elderly peoples' housing of this scale and type and we all look forward to its fulfilment and the contentment it will bring to some of our senior citizens.

Previous thoughts on the redevelopment of the central area of the district had to be revised in the light of changed attitudes on the part of the Developers and the Planning Authority. Proposals of a more modest nature are now in hand and must be actively progressed if the decay and obsolescence prevalent in the area is to be arrested and the environment improved.

Of the complaints received during the year, none were more important, I feel, than those from two householders regarding pollution of the atmosphere inside dwelling houses from gas fired central heating appliances. Analysis of the air revealed that these complaints were justified in that the Carbon Monoxide level was in excess of accepted standards. Whilst the adaptation of the appliances in these cases was carried out quickly, the incidents do highlight a hazard which can arise where a gas, or for that matter any fuel fired appliance, is not supplied with sufficient air for proper and efficient combustion.

The stage can be reached when, by reason of the blocking of door bottoms, ventilation bricks etc., the appliance has used all available oxygen and there is insufficient air to complete combustion to carbon dioxide. There are, fortunately, no reported cases of carbon monoxide poisoning, but the need to provide adequate ventilation, and thereafter to maintain it, must be stressed, not only to installers but more important to householders and especially those who seek to cut off "draughts".

One prosecution under Sec.2. of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 was taken during the year. The article involved, a carton of dairy dessert, was at the time of sale not only mouldy but still in circulation some twentyone days after the expiry of its shelf life - a sad commentary on the stock rotation systems of the Manufacturer and the Retailer and yet another incident to lend strong support to those who advocate the date stamping of perishable foodstuffs.

I would take the opportunity of expressing my thanks to the members of the Council for their confidence and assistance throughout the year. I would also like to thank the Officers and Staff for their support and contribution towards the work summarised in this Report.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D.G. MASLING, M.A.P.H.I, M.R.S.H, A.F.S.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY

- (i) The water supply to the Urban District is provided by the North West Gloucestershire Water Board.

During the year 42 new premises were connected to the supply. Mains extensions as follows were laid:-

4" dia. - 187 lin.yds. at Chase Avenue.

(ii) Samples

22 samples of water from consumer's taps were taken for bacteriological examination and of these 21 were found to be entirely satisfactory. The remaining sample was cleared upon re-examination.

Six samples were taken for bacteriological examination from three isolated premises using underground private supplies. Both series of samples showed that the water was unsatisfactory and householders were advised regarding treatment.

Five chemical samples were taken at random from consumer's taps and in all cases were found to be satisfactory for the purposes of a domestic supply. A typical analytical return of a sample taken on 1st April 1969 is reproduced hereunder:-

Appearance	Clear & bright
Colour	Nil
Odour cold	Nil
" hot	
Taste	
pH Value	7.71 (All Chemical results
Total Solid Residue (dried 180°C)	268 expressed in parts per
Hardness as CaCO ₃ Permanent	79 million)
" " " Temporary	89
" " " Total	168
Calcium as CaCO ₃	130
Magnesium as CaCO ₃	38
Chlorine in Chlorides	35
Oxygen absorbed, 3 hrs, 37°C.	1.20
Nitrite Nitrogen	0.005
Nitrate Nitrogen	4.70
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.06
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.07
Opacity (Turbidity + Colour)	2.3
Silica	6.3
Phosphate as PO ₄	0.035
Total Iron as Fe	0.06
Soluble Iron as Fe	0.04
Residual Chlorine	0.09
Potassium as K.	3.8
Sodium as Na	18.0
Total Manganese as Mn	Nil
Soluble Manganese as Mn	
Sulphate as SO ₄	72

(iii) Fluoride Content

The Chemist to the Board reports that the natural fluoride content of the water from the various sources of supply does not exceed 0.3 parts per million.

(iv) Discolouration of Supply

There was no recurrence of complaints regarding intermittent discolouration of the water supply, referred to in the reports for 1967 and 1968 and it is apparent that the treatment plant installed by the Board, and work done to the mains, has been effective in solving this problem.

(v) Statistics

No. of dwelling houses supplied by mains direct to houses	- 3349
" " " " " " " stand pipes	- 0
" " " " " " " private supplies	- 46
Population supplied by mains	9,961

(vi) General

The water supply to the area generally has throughout the year been satisfactory both in respect of quantity and quality. The relatively small proportion of the population which does not take water from the mains supply (1.1%) live in isolated parts of the district beyond present limits of supply.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The sewerage system is connected to the treatment and disposal works owned and operated by the Cheltenham Borough Council. The system is predominantly "separate", surface water being discharged into the River Chelt or its tributary streams. All drainage schemes for new housing projects are required to be separate.

The treatment works of the Cheltenham Borough Council at Hayden underwent considerable works of improvement and enlargement during the year.

The sewerage system within the Urban District received no major alterations or extensions during 1969. A major blockage of the foul sewer in the Charlton Close area occurred during the year necessitating partial relaying and installation of new manholes. In this locality, houses have been built in close proximity to the sewer, the line of which is now through rear gardens.

The inconvenience caused to householders when faults arise in sewers in this position, together with restriction of the use of heavy plant and considerable costs of reinstatement, strengthen the current policy of not constructing or adopting public sewers where they are not in the public highway.

The small area in Sandy Lane north of the Railway Bridge still remains unsewered, but provision has been made in the 1970/71 estimates for this scheme to proceed. The density of housing in this area is now such that, together with the non-porous nature of the sub-soil which adversely affects septic tank treatment, main drainage is essential as a public health measure.

The number of all types of premises not connected to main drainage and served by individual disposal plants, is approximately 2% of the total premises and apart from the Sandy Lane area, these premises are, in the main, in isolated rural situations beyond the limits of the sewerage system.

As the rural parts of the district are wholly now within the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, it is unlikely that there will be any increase in the numbers of premises not connected to main drainage.

Apart from portions of the sewerage system in Charlton Close and Horsefair Street, which have given rise to surcharge during intense rainfall, the sewerage system may be considered adequate. The sewage disposal facilities at the Borough Council's Plant provide satisfactory treatment for the effluent.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A weekly door to door collection of household refuse was operated throughout the year. Two vehicles, a 25 cubic yard Shelvoke and Drewry Fore and Aft Tipper and a Karrier Ramillies continuous loader were utilised with an overall staff of eight men including drivers.

The service is now supplemented by a free service to householders for the collection of bulky and extraordinary items of refuse, an additional vehicle and crew being engaged part time on this task, together with collections from isolated dwellings. 214 such collections were made during the year. Despite this service, however, there were a disturbing number of incidents where rubbish and unwanted household articles were deposited on the road side and verges in isolated areas. Two abandoned motor cars were removed for disposal following statutory action under the Civic Amenities Act 1967.

It is gratifying to report that, apart from the periods immediately following Bank Holidays, the weekly refuse collection service operated throughout the year. This is entirely due to the continued loyalty of the collection crews and is despite the dirty and heavy nature of the work, comparatively poor reward and in some instances lack of recognition of the importance to the community of this service. I again strongly commend to the Council the introduction of an incentive bonus scheme which would not only supplement the earnings of operatives but also go some way to offset continual rising costs. The volumetric increase in the yield of domestic refuse has again been apparent and the stage is now being approached where approximately half the premises collected have two or more bins or receptacles involving a second trip by operatives.

During the year the Haywards Road tip became filled and tipping operations commenced in the disused railway cuttings east of Ash Grove Farm. This site, acquired by the Urban District Council after lengthy negotiations with the Railways Board, offers a short term solution only to the disposal problem especially when used by the Cheltenham Borough Council, Cheltenham Rural District Council and the Urban District Council jointly. The volume of material tipped by Private Contractors, particularly since the introduction of the container service, has also increased considerably and although being a source of income, is reducing the life expectancy of tipping sites to a marked degree.

HOUSING AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Urban District is almost entirely residential in character, the working population being mainly employed in industry, commerce and offices in and around the adjoining Borough of Cheltenham. The relatively small numbers of people employed within the district are engaged mainly in offices, laundering, light engineering, the retail trade and catering.

The large population growth in the last decade has not been accompanied by a proportionate increase in industry, commercial or retail premises, although there has been modest light industrial development in the Old Railway Station Yard and further office development at Charlton House. An increase and widening of range in retail shops as is envisaged in the central area redevelopment proposals, is essential and overdue, if the community of Charlton Kings is to retain any individual identity and not become to be regarded as a "part of Cheltenham".

There is a high level of owner occupation with the result that housing standards are generally high, and despite the small numbers of improvement grants awarded, the tendency for the smaller houses to be sold rather than re-let on vacation continues. In the light of this, the numbers of houses subject to formal action is small.

The numbers of houses formally reported as unfit for human habitation was five, in all cases, the occupants having been rehoused by the Council.

Circular 92/69 called for a review of action to be taken to step up the clearance of unfit housing. A re-appraisal of the housing situation in the light of the provisions of the Housing Act 1969 revealed that some 31 houses are still considered to be unfit with action pending and a further 15 houses regarded to be unfit with clearance action anticipated within 5 years, 33 of this total of 46 houses (72%) are located in the central portion of the district where plans for redevelopment are still under consideration.

These figures, together with an increased housing waiting list, clearly indicate that a housing programme is essential and, furthermore, will need to be maintained after the scheme for elderly people in Croft Road.

There were no "statutory" cases of overcrowding discovered or notified during the year.

(a) Housing Statistics Summary

- (1) The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be in some respect unfit for human habitation 11
- (2) The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority 6
- (3) The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to:-
 - (a) the serving of Notices requiring the execution of works .. Nil
 - (b) the making of demolition or closing orders 5
 - (c) the making of clearance orders Nil
- (4) The number of notices served requiring the execution of works. Nil
- (5) The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notice. Public Health Act 1936, Housing Act 1957... Nil
- (6) The number of demolition or closing orders made Nil
- (7) The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Section 16, Housing Act 1957 5
- (8) The number of houses demolished 3

(b) Improvement Grants

(i) <u>Standard Grants</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Refused</u>
By Owner Occupiers	9	-
By Landlords	2	1

(ii) Amount Paid in Grants (4) £706

(iii) Amenities Provided

Fixed Bath or Shower	.....	4
Wash Hand Basin	.....	4
Hot Water Supply	.....	4
Water Closet	.....	4
Food Store	.....	4

(iv)	<u>Discretionary Grants</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Refused</u>
	By Owner Occupiers	-	1
	By Landlords	-	-
(v)	Amount Paid in Grants (1)	Nil	
(c)	<u>Rent Act 1957</u>		
	Number of applications for Certificate of Disrepair		Nil
	Number of certificates issued		Nil
	Number of undertakings accepted		Nil
(d)	<u>Provision of new Housing Accommodation</u>		
	Number of dwellings erected by Council		Nil
	" " " " " Private Enterprise		75
	" " " acquired by the Council		Nil
(e)	<u>Applicants for Housing Accommodation at 31.12.69.</u>		
	Families with two or more children	22	
	Families with one child	25	
	Childless couples	8	
	Elderly couples and persons	46	
		101	

FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD HYGIENE

Classification

(a) Type of Business	Number	No.complying with Reg.16.	No. of premises to which Reg.19. applies	No.of Premises
<u>Catering</u>				
Hotels	2	2	2	2
Licensed Premises	9	9	9	9
Works Canteens	1	1	1	1
School Canteens & Kitchens	5	5	5	5
Butchers	3	3	3	3
Grocers & Greengrocers	13	13	13	13
Fish Friers	1	1	1	1
Off Licences (Grocery)	4	4	4	4
Confectioners	1	1	1	1
Sweets/Confectioners	6	6	6	6

(b) Premises registered under Food and Drugs Act 1955

(1) for storage and sale of ice cream	22
(2) for manufacture of sausages	2

(c) Poultry Processing Premises

There are no poultry processing premises within the District.

(d) Food Hygiene

There were no legal proceedings instituted in respect of contraventions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960 or the Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles)

Regulations 1966.

All premises are constructed and equipped to comply with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations and the emphasis of inspections is to basically ensure that the food handling practices of staff are in accordance with hygienic principles. The proprietors of food premises co-operated in rectifying other minor infringements noted.

(e) Complaints regarding Food

The following complaints regarding food were received during the year:-

<u>Food</u>	<u>Reason for Complaint</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Faggots	Abnormal Taste	Due to uneven mixing at Manufacturers Premises. Manufacturer warned.
Pork Pie	Mouldy	Proprietors of two Retail premises warned & requested to pay closer attention to stock rotation. In this case there was some element of doubt as to actual place of purchase.
Flour	Abnormal Smell & Taste	Taken up with Manufacturers
Tablets	Discolouration	Referred to Weights & Measures Inspector. On analysis found to be of normal content.
Strawberry Dairy Dessert	Mouldy	Retailer prosecuted by U.D.C. Fined £20 with 10 guineas costs.

The institution of proceedings under Sec.2. of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 in relation to the mouldy dairy dessert, focusses attention on the problem of the date coding of perishable food-stuffs and stock rotation. In this particular case, the food-stuff, with a normal shelf life of 5 days, was sold some 27 days after date of manufacture. Although this was a product of a national Manufacturer of repute, neither the Retailer or I were able to interpret the code stamp and after some delay information on it was provided by the Manufacturer and revealed the long expiry of the shelf life. The constituent nature of the dairy dessert was such that there could have been a severe health risk had it been eaten and the use of readily identifiable codes and efficient stock rotation systems are obviously matters which the food distribution trade, both at the manufacturing and retailing stage, must pay more meticulous attention to if the public and consumers they serve are to be adequately safeguarded.

(f) Food and Drugs Act 1955 - Adulteration & Quality

The sampling of food and drugs for compositional quality is carried out by the Gloucestershire County Council through its Weights and Measures Department.

A total of 39 Food and Drug samples and 6 Milk samples were taken in the district by the County Council.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses within the Urban District.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

No new licences were issued during the year. The licences now operative in the District are restricted to sites for individual caravans, all being provided with water and sanitary facilities from houses in the same vicinity.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

One licence was issued during the year. Satisfactory conditions were maintained at the premises in accordance with licensing requirements.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS

1928 & 1936

Thirteen licences for the storage of Petroleum Spirit were issued during the year. All licences are issued subject to the appropriate conditions specified in the current Home Office Model Code and supplemented by conditions prepared by the Association of Petroleum Acts Administration.

PEST CONTROL

The following is an extract from the annual return submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. These figures indicate a slight decrease on the infestations treated during the year. The Rodent Operator is a full time Council employee and is allocated other duties when not engaged on rodent control work. The service is free to occupiers of all dwelling houses and includes treatment for other pests, e.g. wasps, moles, flies etc.

	<u>Non-</u> <u>Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
Number of properties inspected following notification.	80	2
Number infested by (a) Rats	68	2
(b) Mice	9	-
Number of properties inspected for rats or mice for reasons other than complaint or notification.	121	1
Number of above infested by		
(a) Rats	3	-
(b) Mice	1	-

The sewerage system was baited and treated, where infested with rats, twice during the year.

111 treatments were carried out during the year for the removal of wasps nests and 11 treatments for moles. The Rodent Operator also carries out any other disinfection or disinfestation work.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

One notice under Sec.1. of the Noise Abatement Act 1960 and Sec.93. of the Public Health Act 1936 was served during the year in respect of noise created by motors of a refrigeration plant at retail shop premises. The requirements of the notice were ultimately satisfied by improved insulation of both the mountings and the housings of the motors.

A further complaint, again of noise from refrigerator equipment at retail shop premises had to be dealt with in a similar manner.

In both these cases the measured level of the noise in decibels did not greatly exceed the background noise by day, particularly as the premises in question were situate near the heavily trafficked trunk road. Nevertheless, the nuisance and inconvenience was apparent and became more pronounced at night when the ambient background noise level dropped.

Installation of this type of equipment into existing shops unfortunately requires no form of prior approval and it is a matter which will need close scrutiny in areas where commercial and residential premises co-exist.

The noise level meter acquired during the early part of the year has proved most useful in the assessment of noise complaints.

FACTORIES ACT 1937 - 1959

PREMISES	No. of Premises on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Secs.1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec.7. is enforced by the Local Authority.	14	7	Nil	Nil
(3) Other premises in which Sec.7. is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers)	2	2	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	16	9	Nil	Nil

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. By H.M. Inspector (4)	(5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences(S.7.) (a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACT (Contd)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
B/fwd	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	-	-	-	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY

PREMISES ACT 1963

TABLE A

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year.	No. of premises registered at the end of the year.	No. of premises receiving general Inspection.
Offices	1	16	8
Retail Shops	3	33	23
Wholesale Shops	-	2	1
Warehouses	-	-	-
Catering Establishments	-	9	7
Fuel storage Depots	-	-	-
TOTALS	4	60	39

TABLE B

Number of visits to all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises - 64

TABLE C

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	290
Retail Shops	78
Warehouses	10
Catering Establishments	44
Canteens	12
Fuel Storage Depots	-
Total	434
Total Males	157
Total Females	277

TABLE D
EXEMPTIONS - Nil

TABLE E
PROSECUTIONS - Nil

TABLE F
INSPECTORS - No. of Inspectors appointed - 1
under section 52(1) or (5)
of the Act.

No. of other staff employed for
most of their time on work in
connection with the Act. - Nil

1. Registration of Premises

The number of newly registered premises during the year is again small and in each case registration was made after incoming occupiers had been reminded of their obligations in this respect. There does appear to be an awareness of the provisions of the Act on the part of tradespeople and the like and some further publicity on this point might now be appropriate.

2. Inspections of Premises

All premises registered have previously received a general inspection and the inspection work has been absorbed into the regular routine of the Department. The basis of all inspections has been as a "general inspection" of the whole of premises embracing all the relevant provisions of the Act. The frequency of inspection is suited to the premises involved more priority being given to those premises where larger numbers are employed or where experience shows that more regular inspections are called for.

3. Administration and Enforcement

In addition to the Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, two Assistants in the Department are now able to carry out inspections and do so in connection with their other duties.

There were no prosecutions during the year for infringements, but in one case authority was obtained for proceedings to be taken. This arose from a premises, previously registered, being divided and the incoming occupier had made no provision for sanitary accommodation and washing facilities etc. As a result of follow up visits and warning letters, new sanitary accommodation was provided prior to a Court hearing. In all other cases where contraventions, all of a minor nature, have been found, co-operation has been sought and obtained from occupiers of premises.

No complaints were received from occupiers or employees during the year. In a combined department, it is readily possible to scrutinise any plans submitted for premises affected by the Act and suitable advice is given where appropriate.

4. Accidents

There were again no accidents reported during the year. Whilst the numbers of premises registered in the Urban District are small it is nevertheless surprising that there have been no reported accidents since the commencement of the Act some six years ago. The lack of reports of accidents and in fact complaints on any aspect of the Act, might well be interpreted as a lack of interest on the part of employees.

5. Lighting

The recommendations in respect of Standards for Lighting in premises have provided useful criteria for determining the sufficiency and suitability of lighting. The general standards of lighting are found to have improved particularly in Offices.

